

BLACK / AFRICAN AMERICANS AND TOBACCO IN WASHINGTON

WHAT NATIONAL DATA ARE SAYING...

- According to most recent national data in 2004, about 20% of Black/ African Americans are current smokers – lower than the national average.
- Smoking is responsible for 87% of the lung cancer deaths in the United States. Overall, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths among Black/ African Americans.
- Black/African American men are 50% more likely to develop lung cancer than white men.
- Tobacco companies have placed advertising in many Black/African American magazines. They also contribute to cultural events & provide support to the higher education institutions.

WHAT WASHINGTON DATA ARE SAYING ABOUT ADULTS...

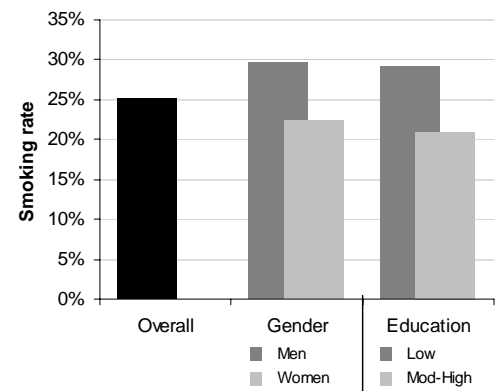
Smoking and quitting data say...

- Overall smoking rate is about 25%; higher than the state rate of 18%
- Higher smoking rates are driven by a disproportionately higher rates of low socio-economic status
- Black/African American smokers are more likely to be occasional smokers.
- Two thirds of smokers have tried to quit in the past year
- More than 65% of tobacco users would like to quit

Compared* to the rest of Washington, Black/African American smokers are...

- Equally as likely to be advised to quit by a Health Care Provider
- Equally as likely to be offered or referred to help by their health care provider
- Equally as likely to know about the Quitline
- Equally as likely to have/know about healthcare benefits that cover cessation

Black/African American Smoking Rates (BRFSS 03-05)



Secondhand smoke data say...

- At work, exposure to secondhand smoke is about 9%; this is about equal to the overall state rate of about 8% - there is no difference from the state regardless of smoking status
- At home, exposure to secondhand smoke is about 23%; this is higher than the overall state rate of about 13%. – among nonsmokers, exposure is two times higher than the state rate.

Compared* to the rest of Washington, Black/African Americans are...

- More likely to agree that secondhand smoke is very harmful
- More likely to agree that there should be laws protecting non-smokers from secondhand smoke
- Twice as likely to believe that ALL children should be protected from secondhand smoke
- More likely to believe there should be outdoor secondhand smoke laws that protect children

*Taking into account differences in education and age – NOTE: Differences reflected as “not significantly different” mean no statistical difference was detected.

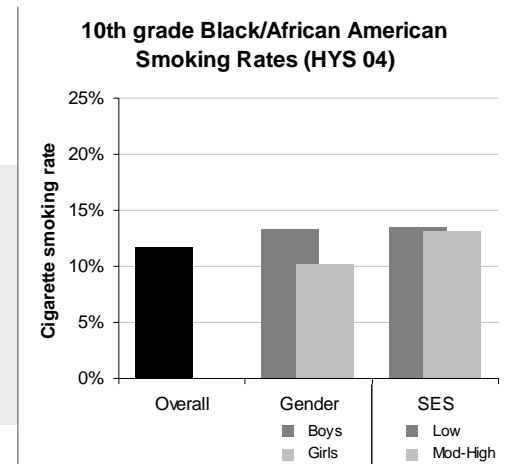
WHAT WASHINGTON DATA ARE SAYING ABOUT YOUTH...

Smoking and susceptibility data among 10th graders say...

- Overall cigarette smoking rate for 10th graders is about 12%
- Smoking rates are not different between boys and girls
- Smoking rates are not different by socio-economic status (SES)
- About 29% are susceptible to tobacco use – meaning they have not made a firm commitment not to smoke

Compared to the rest of Washington, Black/African American 10th graders are...

- Just as likely to smoke cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, bidis, cloves, and use smokeless tobacco
- Just as likely to be susceptible to tobacco use
- More likely to report living with someone who smokes



Attitudes about smoking from data among 10th graders say...

- Around 67% think smoking a few cigarettes a day is very harmful
- About 73% think smoking a pack or more of cigarettes a day is very risky
- About 59% think smoking is very wrong for young people
- About 21% think it's very hard to get cigarettes
- About 64% have had discussions with parents about the dangers of tobacco
- About 60% received information about the dangers of tobacco in school in the past year

Secondhand smoke data among 10th graders say...

- Around 51% of non-smokers have been exposed to secondhand smoke in a room or a car in the past week
- About 58% think that secondhand smoke is very harmful

Compared to the rest of Washington, Black/ African American 10th graders are...

- Just as likely to believe light smoking and heavy smoking is very harmful
- Just as likely to believe smoking is very wrong for young people
- Just as likely to think cigarettes are very hard to get
- Just as likely to have talked with their parents about the dangers tobacco use
- Half as likely to have received information in classes about the dangers of tobacco
- Just as likely to report being exposed to secondhand smoke
- Less likely to believe secondhand smoke is very harmful

CONCLUSIONS

- Tobacco prevention and control continues to be an important public health intervention among Black – African American youth.
- Continued attention must be given to specific subgroups within this diverse community.